



FIELD CROPS

Potato Acreage, Production, and Stocks

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2010 Spring Production

Florida

Weather: Planting preparations for Hastings took place in early January. Growers ran heaters to prevent freezing of seed potatoes in storage. Freezing conditions mid-month delayed some planting. By late January, surplus rain caused standing water in some recently planted Hastings fields. In mid-February some potato seed had rotted in the ground. Some growers replanted when field work was possible. Potatoes in the Hastings area had a slow start with cold, wet conditions. The crop remains behind schedule. Potato harvest, in southern Florida areas, began in late February for fields that were not affected by the freeze. Growing conditions in the other areas were mostly favorable.

Spring: Producers planted 32,400 acres, down 200 acres from the 32,600 winter and spring acres planted in 2009. Acreage for harvest was set at 31,000 acres, up 2,100 acres from the combined winter and spring acres harvested a year ago. Yield is expected to average 244 cwt per acre, down 22 cwt from the previous year. Production is anticipated to total 7.55 million cwt, down 2 percent or 150 cwt from the 2009 combined production. Growers in the Hastings area planted 20,200 acres and hope to dig 19,000 acres compared with 20,000 acres planted and 16,500 acres dug in 2009. The Hastings area yield is expected to average 230 cwt per acre, down from 2009. The Hastings production is set at 4.37 million cwt or 2 percent more than the 4.29 million cwt dug last year. The combined winter and spring production from other areas is expected to total 3.18 million cwt, down 230,000 cwt or 7 percent from the 3.41 million cwt dug a year ago.

United States

Winter Potatoes: California winter potato estimates are combined with spring potatoes beginning in 2010.

Spring: Production for 2010 is forecast at 25.6 million cwt, up 20 percent from 2009; however, beginning in 2010 California winter and summer season potatoes are included in the spring season total. Area for harvest is forecast at 89,600 acres, 22 percent more than 2009. The average yield of 286 cwt per acre is down 3 cwt from 2009. California spring potato production is forecast at 11.8 million cwt, up 64 percent from last year. . Growers reported good conditions and a normal crop year. North Carolina growers are expected to produce 3.26 million cwt of spring potatoes, a decrease of 4 percent from 2009. As of March 28, 2010, crop condition was rated 100 percent good with topsoil moisture as mostly adequate. Production in Texas is forecast at 1.97 million cwt, up 1 percent from 2009, while Arizona growers expect production to total 1.04 million cwt, down 8 percent from last year.

Summer Potatoes: The final estimate of 2009 summer potato production is 14.5 million cwt, up slightly from the preliminary estimate in the January *Crop Production 2009 Summary*. Harvested area covered 42,700 acres, down 1 percent from the 2009 preliminary estimate. The revised average yield of 340 cwt per acre is up 4 cwt from the 2009 preliminary estimate.

Potatoes

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield per acre		Production		
	Planted		Harvested						
	2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010	2008	2009	Indicated 2010
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(cwt)	(cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Winter									
California ¹	9.0	(NA)	8.7	(NA)	245	(NA)	2,530	2,132	(NA)
Spring									
Arizona	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.7	280	280	1,050	1,120	1,036
California ¹	17.8	31.0	17.5	31.0	410	380	6,930	7,175	11,780
Florida	32.6	32.4	28.9	31.0	266	244	7,952	7,700	7,550
Hastings	20.0	20.2	16.5	19.0	260	230	4,845	4,290	4,370
Other Florida	12.6	12.2	12.4	12.0	275	265	3,107	3,410	3,180
North Carolina	16.0	16.0	15.0	15.5	225	210	2,520	3,375	3,255
Texas	8.8	8.8	8.3	8.4	235	235	1,680	1,951	1,974
United States ¹	79.2	91.9	73.7	89.6	289	286	20,132	21,132	25,595

NA Not available
¹ Beginning in 2010, winter and summer estimates included in spring total for California..

Potatoes: Quantity used for Processing, Nine States: 2007-2009

[Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced.]

State & Crop year	To December 1	To January 1	To February 1	To March 1	To April 1	To May 1	To June 1	Entire season
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Idaho and Oregon, Malheur								
2007	26,230	33,250	40,310	48,660	55,460	63,000	70,700	88,030
2008	22,380	28,980	35,430	42,150	49,030	55,570	62,940	77,340
2009	23,110	29,180	35,170	42,050	49,170			
Maine ¹								
2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,990	4,670	5,240	7,550
2008	1,635	2,240	2,895	3,515	4,005	4,795	5,540	7,545
2009	1,575	2,060	2,680	3,265	3,915			
Washington and Oregon, Other								
2007	30,595	36,940	42,350	50,165	57,160	67,690	72,380	82,770
2008	32,560	38,050	42,795	49,865	56,350	62,635	70,625	81,260
2009	25,350	31,200	36,490	43,750	50,170			
Other States ²								
2007	15,040	17,535	20,755	23,900	26,650	29,710	32,600	39,430
2008	12,480	15,120	18,165	21,030	24,025	26,515	29,590	37,285
2009	10,605	13,260	16,225	*18,920	21,525			
Total								
2007	73,565	89,895	106,230	126,165	143,260	165,070	180,920	217,780
2008	69,055	84,390	99,285	116,560	133,410	149,515	168,695	203,430
2009	60,640	75,700	90,565	*107,985	124,780			
Dehydrated ³								
2007	12,815	16,785	21,040	25,350	29,500	33,650	37,975	46,660
2008	10,675	14,490	18,335	21,465	24,875	28,195	31,870	39,345
2009	10,945	13,950	17,065	19,800	23,045			

* Revised.
¹ Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.
² Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in Wisconsin.
³ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Potato Stocks up 11 Percent from April 2009

The 13 major potato States held 129 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2010, up 11 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 34 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, 3 percentage points above April 1, 2009. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 1.40 million cwt on April 1, 2010, down 3 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 255 million cwt, was slightly above April 1, 2009. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 24.4 million cwt, was up 18 percent from the same date in 2009. Processors in the 9 major States have used 125 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 6 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 23.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 7 percent from last year.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 2000 through 2009

[For 2000-2004, data accounts for 15 major producing States. Beginning in 2005 data accounts for 13 major producing States.]

Crop Year	Production	December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003	403,566	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004	404,017	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	375,118	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,527	258,900	225,800	192,200	159,500	120,900	79,050	44,460
2007	397,753	265,500	232,300	199,300	163,400	125,500	83,960	50,420
2008	369,866	243,700	213,200	183,900	152,700	115,800	78,100	45,300
2009	383,929	265,800	235,300	203,400	*169,800	129,100		

* Revised.